

impact on the Fisk University community and that its Centennial Anniversary coincides with the release of the documentary film *TWENTY PEARLS* about Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the first black Greek letter organization founded in 1908. Representative UNDERWOOD also celebrated Honoree WILSON's AKA legacy as the 11th South Atlantic Regional Director and First Pi Chapter alumnae to serve in the United States Congress.

Representative NIKEMA WILLIAMS (GA) honored Pi Chapter for reaching its 100-year milestone, its success, strength and courage, and for showing what leadership looks like and changing the world. Rep. WILLIAMS who now holds the seat vacated by the passing of Fisk graduate and civil rights icon, the Honorable John Lewis, praised Congresswoman WILSON for her decade of service fighting for civil rights and voting rights in Congress and holding America to its promise.

Representative JOYCE BEATTY (OH), current Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and is known as the "conscious of the Congress," saluted and applauded Pi Chapter's organizers, board members, executive staff and all involved in the Centennial Celebration. She saluted Alpha Kappa Alpha for blazing a trail of excellence for over 100 years. CBC Chairwoman BEATTY highlighted Congresswoman WILSON's great successes in establishing the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, founding of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, and efforts to fight for and assist the young girls in Nigeria kidnapped by Boko Haram. Representative BEATTY also noted Representative WILSON's crucial ongoing service on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; chairs the Education and Labor Committee's Higher Education and Workforce Investment Subcommittee and serves on the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee of the United States Congress and the Biden Administration's economic recovery plans for the American people.

On April 6, 1921, Pi Chapter was chartered at Meharry Medical College by Pauline Kigh Reed, Druceilla Barnadano, Clarise Bartlett, Georgia Blackmore, Wilhelmina Bowles, Mildred Harper, Lelia Lyon and Marie Williams. Pi Chapter was the first undergraduate chapter chartered in the South Eastern Region. The chapter was later moved to the historic Fisk University in 1927.

Over the past 100 years, Pi Chapter has initiated more than one thousand sorority sisters who wear the beautiful colors of salmon pink and apple green. The chapter's motto is "The Fine Light of Pi."

Today, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and the sisters of the Pi Chapter proudly stand firm in the sorority's mission to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and to be of "Service to All Mankind."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues and all Americans to please join me in congratulating Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on its Centennial Anniversary and commend it for its contributions to education and for its commitment to the community, state of Tennessee and our country.

HONORING LEON J. ARP

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Leon J. Arp of Blacksburg, Virginia, who passed away on July 23, 2021, at the age of 91. Mr. Arp was a veteran and businessman who greatly contributed to the Blacksburg community.

Mr. Arp was born in Norway, Iowa on June 30, 1930, to Hugo and Leova Arp. After graduating from Walford High School in 1948, he spent four years in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, serving in air reconnaissance. He married his wife, Kathleen Schulte, in 1955.

He went on to earn his Ph.D. from Iowa State University. Mr. Arp later moved to Virginia to serve as a professor emeritus of Mechanical Engineering at Virginia Tech Blacksburg where he taught for 25 years. In his time there he earned various distinctions and honors for his teaching and research.

Mr. Arp is best known for developing the Arp Respirator in the late 1960s. This design was created to aid infants facing respiratory distress syndrome—at the time the leading cause of infant death in the first week of life. This device is responsible for saving hundreds of infants' lives.

A 1970 Life Magazine profiled this life-saving tool. The article notes that Mr. Arp designed a respirator that could handle the delicacy of premature infants after nearly losing one of his own children to respiratory syndrome. This machine attended an infant's gasp for breath more sensitively than any device in existence at the time. Mr. Arp had continual innovation throughout his career and retained more than 25 patents.

Mr. Arp was preceded in death by his son, William. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Kathleen; his children, Nicholas, John, and Joseph; and eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. I would like to extend to them my condolences.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF KELSEY BEGAYE

**HON. TOM O'HALLERAN**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kelsey Begaye, the fifth president of the Navajo Nation, who passed away this month at the age of 70.

A Vietnam veteran, a devoted public servant, and a leader in faith, Kelsey Begaye served his country, his community, and his people for decades.

In 1969, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving in Vietnam as a specialist fourth radio operator for four years.

In the years that followed, he brought dedication and compassion to his work as a substance abuse counselor, a representative of the Kaibeto Chapter in the Navajo Nation Council, and as the fifth president of the Navajo Nation.

Through countless roles, he leaves behind a legacy of faith and a fierce desire to change

the lives of those living in his community for the better.

My wife and I are keeping Mr. Begaye's family, loved ones, and the Navajo Nation in our prayers as we mourn his passing.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRSTSTATE BANK

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of FirstState Bank.

In late 1968, Mr. J.B. McCord, Gen. Robert Duke, Mr. J.O. McCain and Mr. Don Hogan worked with attorney Mr. T. Reuben Bell to create a local bank to serve their community.

FirstState Bank first opened in 1971 as First State Bank of Lineville. A few years later, the bank changed to First State Bank of Clay County. As the bank grew, another location was added in Wedowee and the name was changed to what it is today, FirstState Bank.

The original organizers include: Mr. J.B. McCord, Mr. Bill Ogle, Mr. L.D. Walker, Mr. Bernard Spurlin, Mrs. Bessie McCrary, Mr. Robert Howell, Ms. Nina Faye Bonner, General Robert W. Duke, Mr. Grover Bearden, Mr. W.W. Young, Mr. Don Hogan, Mr. Lester Proctor, Mr. Charles Taylor and Mr. J.O. McCain.

Johnny Appleby was the first employee hired by the bank and worked there until his passing in 2019.

Today, FirstState Bank is thriving under the leadership of President and CEO Steve Foster.

The bank serves both Clay and Randolph Counties.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of FirstState Bank.

REMEMBERING GERALD WESLEY  
DONOVAN

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and a great Marylander who passed away on July 31. Gerald Wesley Donovan was not just the former Mayor of Chesapeake Beach in Calvert County, Maryland. He was the heart and soul of the town and the center of its community for decades. Gerald dedicated his life to preserving the memory of Chesapeake Beach as it had been generations prior and working to reinvigorate it with a new energy for the twenty-first century and as a place where future generations of Marylanders and visitors could enjoy all the best the town and its surroundings could offer.

Having grown up in the county and attended Calver High School, Gerald was raised with a love of service, a love of learning, and a love of country. In addition to attending Baltimore College of Commerce, Prince George's Community College, and the University of Maryland, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in

1968 and served on active duty until 1971. After serving on the Chesapeake Beach Town Council for seven years, Gerald was appointed the town's mayor in 1983. The following year, his neighbors elected him to continue in that office and returned him again and again for a total of thirty-four years and six consecutive terms. During that time, he oversaw major projects that renewed Chesapeake Beach as a tourist destination, including its Water Park, Railway Trail, Veterans Memorial Park, Bayfront Park, and the annual fireworks show. Each winter, he expressed his joy for the holiday season by securing funding from the council to illuminate the town in festive lights.

Over those same years, Gerald developed a vision to revitalize the old Chesapeake Beach Resort built by Otto Mears in 1900. The rededication of that property in 2004 as the Rod 'N' Reel resort was the culmination of years of work for Gerald and his local business partners. It has become a major destination in Maryland's Fifth District, attracting vacationers from across the country and around the world and helping to grow tourism and support jobs for the local economy.

In addition to serving as Mayor, Gerald also gave back to his community and his country by helping to lead the fight against cancer. Over thirty years, the annual Celebration of Life gala dinner he hosted with his brother, Fred, in memory of their father Fred Donovan, Sr. raised more than \$4 million for the American Cancer Society. Having attended these dinners year after year, I can attest that Gerald's passion for curing and treating cancer and helping those afflicted only grew over time.

Early on, Gerald also joined the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department and later was chosen as its lifetime president. He also served on the executive committee of the Maryland Tourism Board, as a member of the Maryland Restaurant Association's board, and as Chairman of the Calvert County Democratic Central Committee. Gerald was also a pioneer in the creation of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum.

As he got older, Gerald recognized the importance of preparing the next generations to carry on the work of making Chesapeake Beach and Calvert County a wonderful place to live and work and preserving its heritage. He became a mentor to so many young people active in public service in the town and in the county, making time to help them find their own ways to give back to their community and run for local office. Gerald worked to pass on his unparalleled knowledge of the town and its history, and when he retired and left office in 2008, he passed the torch to a new generation now carrying on his work.

In retirement, Gerald loved to drive around Chesapeake Beach and revel in its splendor and success, proud of the work he and so many others had put in over the decades to breathe new life into the town. After he passed away earlier this summer, his friends and neighbors gathered on the sidewalks to pay a final tribute as Gerald's funeral procession made its way through those same streets, escorted by the Calvert County Sheriffs Department and North Beach Volunteer Fire Department vehicles.

Gerald will be missed by so many of us who were fortunate enough to call him a friend. I join in offering my condolences to his wonder-

ful wife and partner Mary, to his children Wesley, Ryan, Roger, Mary, and Veronica and their families, including his thirteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. May Gerald's memory always be a blessing to them and to all the people of his beloved Chesapeake Beach and Calvert County.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF PLATTEVILLE, COLORADO

#### HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Platteville, Colorado.

The Colorado Gold Rush of 1857 brought an influx of frontiersmen through what is now Weld County, spurring population growth and the establishment of dozens of new towns and settlements. After the Denver Pacific Railroad reached the area in 1871, Platteville, Colorado, was founded. With just one general store in the first years of its existence, Platteville has expanded to encompass several banks, factories, hotels, and other retail establishments. The Platte River's fertile valley has long been known for its livestock and poultry, with over 200 farms now located in the surrounding area. Today, Platteville boasts more than 2,500 residents who are proud to call Colorado their home.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I am honored to celebrate this special occasion alongside my constituents who call Platteville home.

#### HONORING ROBERT S. "BOB" LYNCH

#### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great man, a great lawyer, and a great Arizonan. I speak of Robert S. "Bob" Lynch.

Mr. Lynch is a proud graduate of the University of Arizona, obtaining a Bachelor of Arts (1961) and Bachelor of Laws (1964) degrees and a Master of Laws degree with a specialization in natural resources law from George Washington University (1972). Well known as one of the most competent water lawyers in a state where water law governs prosperity, Bob represented clients before Congress and the state legislature. His practice also included representation of clients before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Arizona Corporation Commission and in state and federal courts. His litigation experience includes matters before the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as cases before 9 of the 13 federal appellate courts, and three state supreme courts.

One area in which I was able to get to know Bob included his work as counsel and Treasurer to the Irrigation and Electrical Districts' Association of Arizona (IEDA). The irrigation districts form a key part of the water and agri-

cultural infrastructure in Arizona. Bob guided this important group for years and guided them well.

Professionally, Bob devoted most of his practice to water, electricity, and environmental law issues. Bob was appointed in June 1996 by the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives to the seven-member Federal Water Rights Task Force, a federal advisory committee, established by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act, P.L. 104-127. I also found Bob to be an invaluable advisor on energy and water issues. Bob was devoted to several organizations related to his specialty, including Serving on the Advisory Committee of the American Public Power Association and on the Board of Directors of its political action committee, PowerPAC (Chairman 2000-2007). He is a 2003 recipient of APPA's Kramer-Preston Personal Service Award. Bob also served on the North American Electric Reliability Corporation's Legal Advisory Committee, the Water and Property Rights (Chair) and Energy Issues Committees of the National Water Resources Association, as well as on task forces on the Endangered Species Act of both national associations. He served as President (1991-1996) and Chairman of the Board (1996-2000) of the Central Arizona Project Association. He belongs to the Arizona, Maricopa County, and Federal Bar Associations, and is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

A gentleman of the highest order, Bob is also a scholar. His publications include "Complying With NEPA: The Tortuous Path to an Adequate Environmental Impact Statement," 14 Arizona Law Review 717 (1973) and "The 1973 CEQ Guidelines: Cautious Updating of the Environmental Impact Statement Process," 11 California Western Law Review 297 (1975). One case where Bob's talents came through was the case, *Davis v. Agua Sierra Resources, L.L.C.*, 220 Ariz. 108, 203 P. 506 (2009) vacating 217 Ariz. 386, 174 P. 3d 298 (2008), where Bob successfully convinced the Arizona Supreme Court to overturn the Court of Appeals on a significant groundwater issue.

Bob is a devoted husband to his wonderful wife, Anne, in addition to a giving father and grandfather. I can say that the joy of being a grandfather cannot be exceeded and I could see that joy in every conversation I had with Bob. I would like to take this moment out of day to let the world know that Arizona is blessed to have such a talented and good man like Bob Lynch.

#### HONORING FANNIE LOU HAMER'S 1964 SPEECH ON VIOLENCE TOWARD BLACK AMERICANS REGISTERING TO VOTE

#### HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 24, 2021*

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Fannie Lou Hamer, whose speech on the violent oppression of Black voting rights on August 22, 1964 still rings too true today. Delivered to the Credentials Committee of the Democratic National Convention, her speech details the violence at the hands of agents of the state that she and other Black Americans encountered